

Atty. Docket No. OPP031475US
Serial No: 10/748,652

Remarks

Applicant and his representatives wish to thank Examiner Tobergte for the thorough examination of the present application, the detailed explanations in the Office Action dated March 6, 2006, and the indication that the subject matter of claims 4, 5, 7 and 8 is allowable over prior art. Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of original claim 4. Claim 10 represents claim 7 rewritten in independent form. New claims 11 and 12 correspond to claims 8 and 9. Thus, no new matter or new issues are introduced in the present amendment.

The Rejection of claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The rejection of claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim (US 6,008,526) in view of Kao et al. (US 20030170964) has been obviated by appropriate amendment.

The Rejection of claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The rejection of claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim (US 6,008,526) in view of Kao et al. (US 20030170964) has been obviated by appropriate amendment.

The Rejection of claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The rejection of claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim (US 6,008,526) in view of Kao et al. (US 20030170964) and further in view of Wolf and Tauber (Silicon Processing for the VLSI Era, 2000, Lattice Press, Volume 1, Page 675) has been obviated by appropriate amendment.

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Conclusions

In view of the above amendments and remarks, all bases for objection and rejection are overcome, and the application is in condition for allowance. Early notice to that effect is earnestly requested.

If it is deemed helpful or beneficial to the efficient prosecution of the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,



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